peace came American aid. In this small, densely populated country, everybody felt the friendly hand of Uncle Sam. Malaria, the ancient scourge of the people, was disappearing; orchards had been freed of pests; water had been conducted to arid fields; new crops had been introduced. The countryside looked poor—rocks, eroded overgrazed slopes, humble hamlets—but, here and there, one noticed signs of recovery and progress. Our driver pointed out verdant patches: "They found water here . . . improved seeds . . . they started a co-operative there . . . cotton from the United States. . . ."

A farmhouse, no larger than a hut, probably with a single room, attracted our attention. It was very poor but submerged in flowers. We stopped the car and alighted to take pictures—Emma with a movie camera, and I with a Leica. An old woman came out of the house, with a deeply tanned face, poorly dressed in black. Our chauffeur told her we were from the United States. She greeted us and began to speak softly, telling her story: Her husband died long ago; the children are far away; it is difficult for a woman alone. She still has some land. . . . The chauffeur translated. Her voice expressed gentle resignation, her eyes were sad and tired; her hands, brown like the earth. We were ready to leave but she made a gesture to stop us and said something to the chauffeur. He translated, "She wants to give you a present." She went into the house and reappeared carrying a plate filled with grape leaves, a few nuts, a handful of figs, and some apples. Emma asked the driver whether we could leave her some money, but he felt she would be offended. We took the present and shook hands with her. She was smiling. If I had not been so moved I would not have missed taking a close-up of her.

IN JAPAN

In 1955 we went to Japan at the invitation of the publisher of the Japanese translation of our *World Population and Production.* Originally, we were expected to hold a series of conferences before the Chambers of Commerce and manufacturers' associations in various parts of the country, but the Department of State asked us to get in touch with our embassy in Tokyo, which offered to arrange to have us lecture in universities as well.

Japan was completing its recovery from the war. We faced a great nation with a long cultural tradition, poorly endowed by nature but unsurpassed in courage and ability to respond to grim challenges. Its comeback after almost complete obliteration of its cities, factories, power stations, railroads, highways, bridges, and harbors was marvelous.